

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 14 with the following paragraph:

B¹ --Figure 4 shows that gcpE (Rv 2868C) is predicted to be functionally linked to cell wall metabolism. --

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 21 and 31-33 without prejudice.

Please replace claims 1-4, 6, 21-28, 30, and 34 with amended claims 1-4, 6, 21-28, 30, and 34 as follows:

B² -- 1. (Twice amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the property of interest is a target for a drug.

2. (Twice amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the property of interest is a protein essential for the growth or viability of an organism.

B³ 3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the drug is an anti-microbial drug.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the first nucleic acid sequence or polypeptide sequence is derived from a pathogen.

B⁴ 6. (Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the microorganism is Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB).